

# Wichita Police Department Animal Control



# Objective

- Discuss the Wichita Police Department Animal Control Section
  - Past
  - Present
  - Future
  - Questions



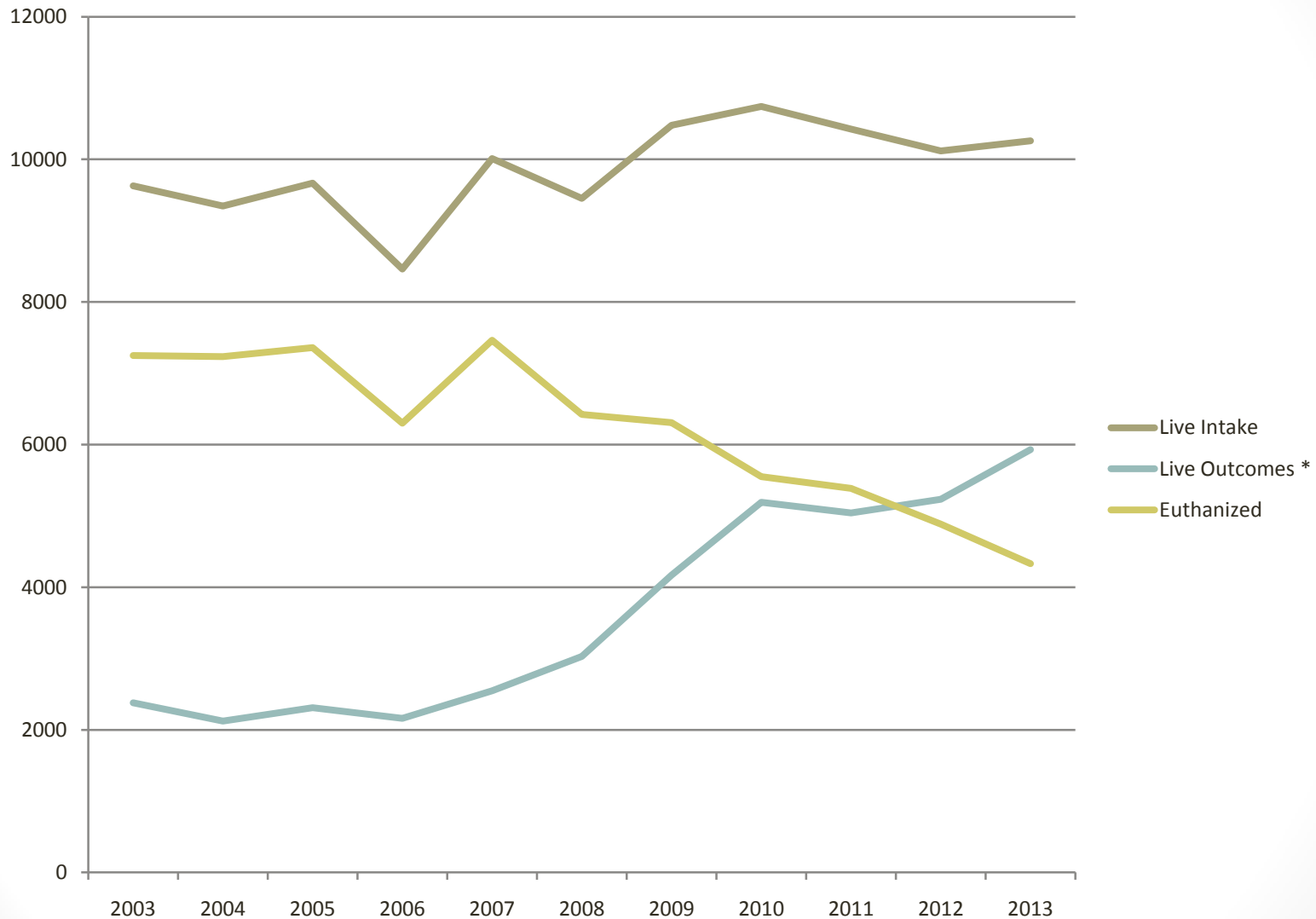
# Background

- Began as a Division of the Wichita/Sedgwick County Department of Community Health
  - In 2001, The City of Wichita formed the Department of Environmental Health, which included the Animal Control Division
- In 2009, the Department of Environmental Health was absorbed into the Department of Public Works and Animal Control operations moved into a new facility at 3303 N. Hillside
- Animal Control was transferred to the Wichita Police Department in January of 2011

# Present

- The Murfin Animal Care Campus
  - Animal Control operates the largest, full-service public animal shelter in Kansas
  - Partnerships with the Kansas Humane Society, as well as local and national animal rescue groups
  - Receives between 9,000 to 15,000 animals each year
  - Releases approximately 5,000 animals back to the public

# Animal Intake, Live Outcome, and Euthanasia



# Animal Control Staffing

- Reclassified a division supervisor to supervisor and added an existing police lieutenant as the Section Commander in September 2012
- Animal Control Field and Shelter is authorized for 26 staff members:
  - 1 Lieutenant
  - 1 field supervisor
  - 1 shelter supervisor
  - 1 dispatcher
  - 16 field officers
  - 4 shelter officers and
  - 2 part time shelter attendants

# Animal Control Responsibilities

- Enforces Chapter 6 of the City Code
- Receives approximately 64,000 Field Service requests and Shelter visits annually
- Receives between 800 to 1,200 animal bite reports annually
- Cruelty & neglects
  - Ensure animals are being fed, watered, and maintained as required by law
- Tethering requirements
  - Ensure pets are not forgotten on chains
- Additional duties
  - Dead animal pick up from animal clinics
  - Quarantine biting animals
  - Community Presentations

# Prioritization of Service Requests

- **PRIORITY ONE:** Imminent danger exists for people, animals, or property
- **PRIORITY TWO:** Perceived danger exists for people, animals, or property; however, the danger is not urgent nor is an emergency
- **PRIORITY THREE:** Animal causing nuisance or quality of life concerns
- **PRIORITY FOUR:** Violations of leash law, licensing, breed restrictions, or services and requests not mandated by municipal or state law
- **PRIORITY FIVE:** General non-urgent complaints and inquiries.



# Animal Control Enhancements

- **New Policy Development:** Three policies were developed specifically to address Animal Control . The policies provided a foundation for operations.
- Policy 531 – Animal Status and Euthanasia
- Policy 532 – Animal Intake and Transfer
- Policy 533 – Animal Control Dispatch Priority
- Creation of a Standard Operating Procedure

# Animal Control Enhancements

- New uniforms
- Mobile Computer Terminals
- New portable radios programmed with WPD channels to create improved communications with patrol.
- Animal Control budgets (Field and Shelter)
- Animal Control ordinances
- Development and implementation of a new Animal Control Officer training curriculum and field training program.
- Contract between the Police Department and Wichita Emergency Veterinary Clinic
- Dog park maintenance agreement with the Parks Dept.

# Animal Control Enhancements

- Animal cruelty and neglect training/certification
  - Civilian staff and a detective
- Partnership with the Kansas Humane Society
  - Joint operating agreement and an amendment to the lease agreement
- Amended the City Code to strengthen dog breeder and spay/neuter ordinances
- Partnered with the Kansas Humane Society and Spay/Neuter Kansas
- Animal sheltering agreement with the City of Andover
- Provide emergency boarding for clients of the YWCA women in crisis program
- Supervisory call-backs to citizens/customers

# Animal Control Future

- Move Animal Control records to WPD laserfiche
- Train staff to utilize the community policing philosophy to address neighborhood concerns
- Ensure Staff continues to receive training in animal handling/care, police procedures and customer service
- Develop a community engagement mechanism
- Incorporate Automatic Call Distribution (ACD) into the phone system at AC
- Utilize mapping and trend analysis for high call/case areas
- Continue working with Wichita Independent Neighborhoods
  - Dog bite cases with U.S. Postal Service and customer service

# Contacting Animal Control?

- The best way to contact Animal Control is by telephone.
  - All services can be accessed by dialing **350-3360**
- Hours/Days of Operation
  - Field dispatch phones staffed 8:00 AM – 17:00 PM Daily
  - Emergency Field response 24 hours/day
  - Shelter phones staffed 11:00-18:30 Mon-Sat and 13:00-17:00 Sun
  - After hours voice mail for non-emergency concerns
  - After hours night drop at the Animal Shelter for healthy strays
  - Closed on New Years Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas

# Questions?

